

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

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The Honorable Blanca Rubio California State Assembly 1021 O Street, Suite 5140 Sacramento, CA 95814

ASSEMBLY BILL 2274 (BLANCA RUBIO) SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Rubio:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Assembly Bill 2274.

AB 2274 extends the statute of limitations for the failure of a mandated reporter to report suspected child abuse or severe neglect not involving sexual abuse to within one year of the discovery of the offense, but in no case later than four years after the commission of the offense.

California's mandated reporter statutes require that certain individuals who, in a professional capacity or within the scope of employment, have knowledge of or observe a child whom the mandated reporter knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect to make an immediate report to a law enforcement agency.

The mandated reporter statutes require that mandated reporters be trained about their responsibilities and duties to report, including specifying that the first report must be made by telephone and a subsequent written report must be made within 36 hours of receiving information about the incident. The statute also specifies that the reporting duties are individual and states that no supervisor or administrator may impede or inhibit the reporting duties, and no person making a report shall be subject to any sanction for making the report.

This bill provides greater protections for vulnerable children who through no fault of their own have been placed in horrible situations. AB 2274 will help ensure that mandated reporters take their roles seriously and can be held accountable for failing to protect the children they are trusted to supervise.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Daniel Felizzatto in my Sacramento Legislative Office at (916) 442-0668.

Very truly yours,

GEORGE GASCÓN District Attorney